



"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

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## WENTER GOES TO THE FRONT.

**He Passes Swift in the Race, and Is Rapidly Approaching the Victorious Goal.**

**Clean-Cut Declarations by the Democratic Candidate on All the Questions of the Hour.**

**Next Tuesday Night Will See Him Mayor-Elect of Chicago by a Big Majority.**

**A Week of Great Meetings and Unexampled Enthusiasm for the Popular Democratic Leader.**

Frank Wenter continues to gain ground daily.

Unless all signs fail, he will be elected Mayor of Chicago by a handsome majority on Tuesday next.

The business men of the city are with him because he is a clear-cut, upright business man himself, who does things in an upright and businesslike manner.

The liberal element of the community favors his election because he is now and always has been in favor of the largest amount of personal liberty consistent with the public good.

Our German-American citizens are proud of Mr. Wenter because he is a credit to that great race from which he sprung.

The other nationalities which make up Chicago's population favor him because of the confidence in his ability and integrity with which he has inspired them.

Mr. Wenter has addressed, during the past week, some of the largest mass meetings ever held in Chicago.

The meeting held at Boulevard Hall, in the town of Lake, on Tuesday night, was, without exception, the biggest political mass meeting ever seen in Chicago.

These facts all mean something. They mean, among other things, that the people are for Frank Wenter for Mayor.

The following interview with Mr. Wenter fully states his position on all questions:

"What will be your position regarding the civil service law should it be adopted by the people of Chicago?"

Mr. Wenter—"I am firmly imbued with the idea of civil service reform. It is my resolution to have the law carried out. While I have not studied the measure carefully enough to be informed on all its provisions the principle is there and I will adhere to it as I have done for years. I have made pledges to the people during the campaign on this question and I will keep them. In fact, I kept them before the present agitation was begun."

"When will you appoint the commissioners provided for in the bill?"

Mr. Wenter—"I will appoint them as soon as I am in office, provided that I am able to get men to accept the office whom I believe to be competent."

"What will be your policy regarding the city employees pending the enforcement of the law?"

Mr. Wenter—"I have made no pledge concerning the manner in which I will handle the city employees. Merit alone will be considered."

"Will you allow the police force to be nonpartisan?"

Mr. Wenter—"I am strong in the opinion that the police should be absolutely independent of politics. They should feel that they are secure in their positions as long as they attend to their duties, and I will do all in my power to make their positions depend on this qualification."

"What will be your attitude toward franchise-giving ordinances?"

Mr. Wenter—"I believe that the city should get value for everything it disposes of. It is as much entitled to remuneration as any private business man. I will insist that such measures shall not become laws until they have been thoroughly considered. The name of the men getting the privileges must be made public before they will ever receive my approval. There will be no passing of ordinances for sale to the highest bidder if I can prevent it."

"What do you propose to do with the floating indebtedness of the city, which now amounts to some \$10,000,000?"

Mr. Wenter—"One of the first matters that I will attend to when I enter office will be a careful study of the financial

situation. It is a question which I cannot answer off-hand, and I would have to consult financiers before I could take action."

"How will you handle the deficit, which is said to amount to \$7,000,000?"

Mr. Wenter—"To cover the deficit it will be necessary to economize. I will cut expenses to the lowest figure. I will also exert my influence to have the taxation more equitably levied, so that the city will have more money to use in the care of the municipality."

"Have you contemplated the prospect of having to issue scrip to pay city employees?"

Mr. Wenter—"That is a question which I cannot now talk intelligently upon. It will only be after the situation has been carefully considered that I would resort to such an extreme."

"Will you pass the cases against the various corporations which the city is suing for damages?"

Mr. Wenter—"I will have these cases urged to a settlement without fear or favor."

"How will you handle the gambling evil?"

Mr. Wenter—"I am opposed to public gambling and will not allow it."

"What will be your attitude toward the special assessment bill?"

Mr. Wenter—"I will veto every ordinance which calls for an improvement to be made by special assessment if, after careful inquiry, I find that the property owners have not demanded it. I will see that the proper course is followed in levying the assessment so far as the city is concerned."

"Will all city contracts be let only after they have been thoroughly advertised and to the lowest bidder?"

Mr. Wenter—"I will always insist that every contract that is let shall be thoroughly advertised and will only let after the fullest information has been secured concerning the kind of work and the cost of work to be done. The bids will be opened in public at a given hour and the freest competition will be invited in the matter. This is the secret of letting contracts."

"Are you in favor of extending the city water plant?"

Mr. Wenter—"I want to give the people of every part of the city plenty of water. It is one of the conveniences of a large city, and every honest effort to increase the supply will receive my assistance."

"Will the extension of the city sewerage system made during your administration be planned to conform with the plans of the drainage board as far as they have been completed?"

Mr. Wenter—"All sewers which are constructed during my administration will be built in conformity with the plans of the sanitary canal. I think that this manner should have been inaugurated several years ago. I do not mean this as a criticism, but it would have been a great gain to the city had it been done."

"What will you do regarding the Sunday movement?"

Mr. Wenter—"I will take a liberal view on the question of Sunday opening and will allow it to be as much as is compatible with good government."

"If elected will you be purely a partisan in your appointments?"

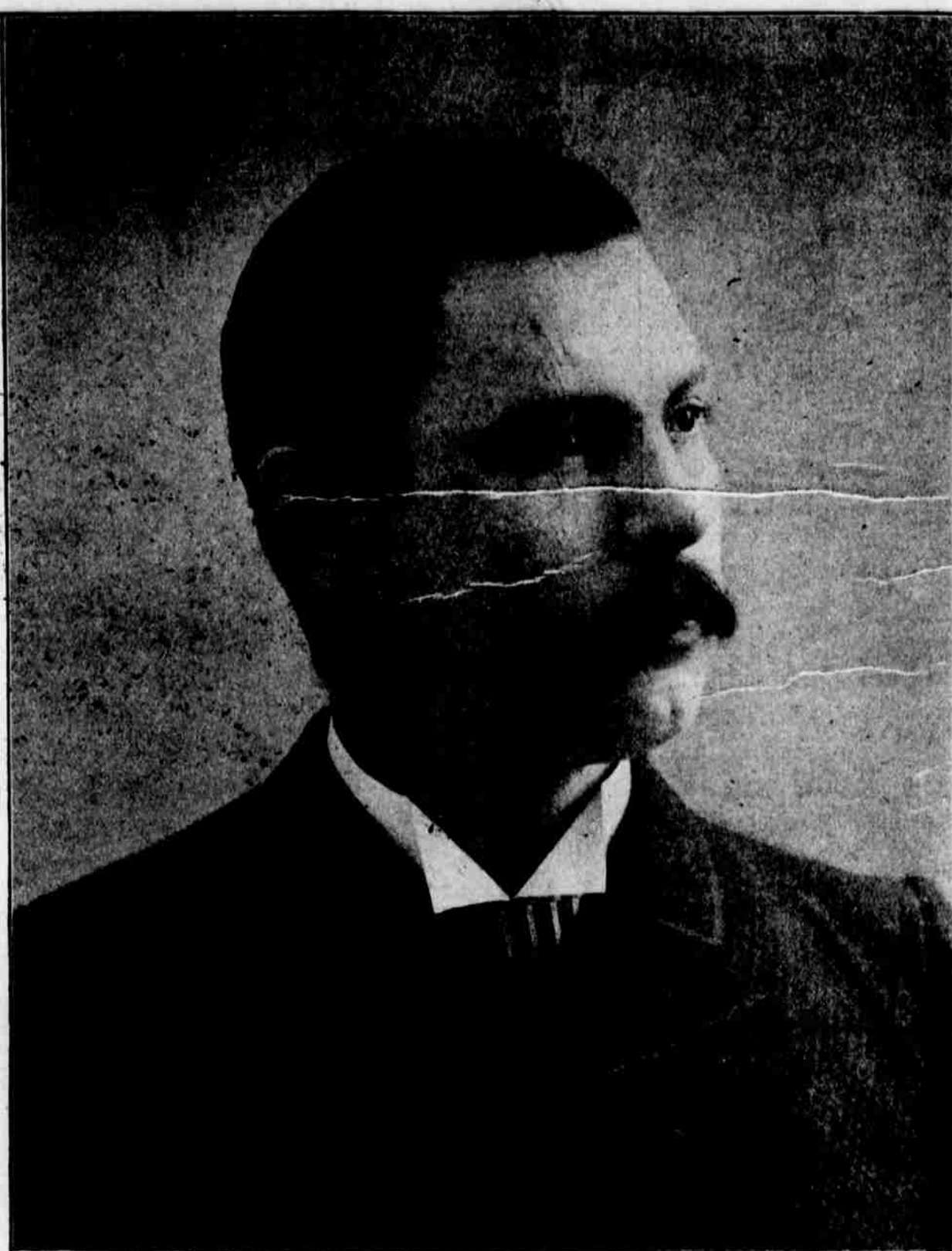
Mr. Wenter—"I will be governed by the qualification of the men for office."

"Will you build up a political machine after you have secured control of the city hall?"

Mr. Wenter—"I will attend to the business of the city and allow the party to attend to the politics."

"Will you continue the work of abolishing grade crossings?"

Mr. Wenter—"I will make every attempt to lessen the evils of grade crossings. If I am elected it will be my earnest endeavor to raise as many tracks as possible while I am mayor."



HON. FRANK WENTER.  
The Next Mayor of Chicago.

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"Are you going to make any special efforts toward securing for the people of Chicago clean streets and alleys?"

Mr. Wenter—"I believe that Chicago can be kept cleaner than at present on the same amount of money. If I am elected the contractors doing the work will be required to do the work or do without their money. I believe that good streets and thoroughfares are essential to the prosperity of the city, and I will make a special effort to secure these for the people."

Frank Wenter went down to the stock yards Wednesday morning and received an ovation. He reached the Exchange Building at 10 o'clock, and for an hour was kept busy shaking hands with brokers, dealers and commission men, who gave him assurance of their earnest support. Mr. Wenter did not make a speech, as his visit was purely an informal one, although made in response to an invitation of the stock yards men. When he entered the Exchange Building he was received with cheers, and was surrounded by hundreds of men eager to grasp his hand.

"We're with you, Frank," was the universal greeting.

After an hour spent among the cattle kings, Mr. Wenter was taken through Armour's big slaughtering and packing establishment. As soon as it became known that he was in the buildings a cheer went up that did credit to Twenty-ninth Ward workmen. Everywhere throughout the establishment Mr. Wenter was greeted with cheers and the men told him that he would get a solid stock yards vote.

Robert R. Jampolski, the Democratic nominee for Circuit Judge, has been making a personal canvass of the country towns, which explains his absence from many of the big rallies held in the city during the past week. Mr. Jampolski is going to surprise people by the large country vote which he will receive. In Austin and throughout the Town of Cicero he is receiving the support not only of his own party but also of half the Republican voters. In Chicago Mr. Jampolski will run away ahead of his ticket. It is claimed that four-fifths of the Populist vote will be cast for him. The Swedish-American element is in revolt against Neely, the Republican candidate, and a large por-

tion of Swedish voters will scratch Neely and vote for Jampolski. While his time so far has been occupied in making a canvass of the country towns, Mr. Jampolski's interests have been well taken care of by the other candidates. Mr. Wenter is deeply interested in the success of Mr. Jampolski, and in every speech makes an urgent appeal to the voters in his behalf.

No better choice could have been made by the Democrats of the Twenty-second Ward for candidate for Alderman than A. W. Maltby. Without blowing horns, or sounding trumpets; without great protestations of reform, but with a fixed, determined effort to present the best man possible for the vot-

ers of the ward, they have put forward a man in every way the peer of any nominee made or endorsed by the Civic Federation.

Mr. Maltby is an educated engineer, to whom the problems of our great water works system are as easy as twice two are four to the average mind; a shrewd man who is not only the master of his own fortune, but, through his management, has made fortunes for others; a master of the coal trade, and recognized as an expert therein from the coal fields of Pennsylvania to Duluth and the far Northwest; with large property interests in the ward; and, above all, of a genial, cordial and liberal disposition. He will not only be overwhelmingly elected, but will reflect credit upon the ward which sends him to the Council, and having plenty of leisure his services will be of great benefit to the city.

An effort has been made to connect him with a contracting company having a branch in this city. This is simply a last despairing effort in the campaign of an already defeated candidate. Mr. Maltby will go into the Council absolutely free and untrammelled from any business relationship which could interfere with and prevent an upright attention to the duties of the office and to the good of the municipality.

We present herewith a cut of the candidate, which shows, without words, what good material has been found in the Twenty-second Ward.

Salvo W. Roth, the Democratic candidate for alderman in the Thirtieth Ward, is making a magnificent race, and his election, it is believed, is assured. The respectable Republicans of the ward are with Mr. Roth, and besides polling the full Democratic strength he will be given the support of hundreds of Republicans and Independents.

Mr. Roth served one term in the Council and made an excellent record. He was opposed to the gang, and for that reason will not have its support. The candidacy of Holman is not seriously considered by the people who demand good representation. The people of the ward know the Republican candidate and will not support him.

Edward S. Dreyer continues to win friends in his great battle for the Assessorship of Lake View. He will certainly make a model official if elected.

Moses Barnett is making a great race for Alderman of the Seventh Ward as an Independent.

Mr. John P. Agnew appears to have the best of it in the Twenty-fourth. He will make a fine Alderman.

The Record has been interviewing the Chairmen of the Democratic and Republican Committees on the outlook.

Here is what it says: Alexander H. Revell, the Chairman of the Republican Campaign Committee, and Francis S. Peabody, Chairman of the Democratic Campaign Committee, both are confident of the success of the Mayoralty candidates whose contests they are managing. Four days remain in which campaign work can be done.

Yesterday each chairman was presented with some queries to answer as to why he believed victory was going to attend his efforts. In answering the questions the two chairmen showed

somehow the different policies of the men managing the two campaigns.

The first question asked was whether the Republican or Democratic nominee was going to be elected. Mr. Revell answered for Mr. Swift and Mr. Peabody for Mr. Wenter. Here are the answers:

Mr. Revell—Mr. Swift will be elected. I am not ready to say what the majority will be. It is too early.

Mr. Peabody—Mr. Wenter will be elected by a majority of from 8,000 to 10,000.

"Where does your candidate's strength come from?"

Mr. Revell—I do not think it would be good policy to go into details on that question. Four days remain of the campaign, and it would be betraying our plans to the enemy.

Mr. Peabody—It will be the old Democratic strength. The North Town will give the Democrats a majority of from 1,500 to 2,000 instead of going Republican. In the past disensions in this part of the city have cut down the vote of our party. Then a great percentage of the People's party vote, which was a direct loss to the Democrats, has come back to the fold.

"Which candidate will get the German vote?"

Mr. Revell—I find that vastly the greater number of Germans are going to support Mr. Swift. A week ago it was mooted around that this vote would go in solid blocks from our party to Mr. Wenter because he was born in Bohemia. It has been proved that the great mass of the German vote cannot be traded or parceled out in the manner claimed by the Democrats.

Mr. Peabody—I figure from the reports received by our committee that Mr. Wenter will get at least 80 per cent. of the German vote of the city of Chicago.

"How about the vote of the other nationalities?"

Mr. Revell—I do not think that it would be good politics to go into the question of nationalities.

Mr. Peabody—One of the most significant things of the latter days of this campaign has been the manner in which the Irish are supporting the entire Democratic ticket. Prominent Irishmen who were reported to be against the ticket are now working heart and soul for the success of the ticket.

"In what regard is the opponent to your candidate most handicapped?"

Mr. Revell—That is another question which I do not consider it good politics to discuss. It would simply point out to the enemy the weak places we have found.

Mr. Peabody—"George B. Swift is heavily weighted with a large number of factional fights. Let me run through the wards. In the First the report comes to me that trades are being made by F. P. Gleason and James R. B. Van Cleave for personal support. There is also an independent candidate who is working for votes at the expense of the general ticket. In the Second Ward another fight is being waged on Martin Best, the regular Republican nominee for Alderman, and there is a strong independent move which must detract from the general strength of the city ticket. In the Fourth Ward is still another fight in the uprising against the candidacy of Martin B. Madden. From what I can learn the friends of Mr. Madden are going so far to insure his election as to be trading Swift votes for Madden ballots. These friends know that if Madden is elected and Swift is defeated their standing with the machine is secure. In the event of Swift's election they know that the organization to which

## AS VIEWED BY THE LEADERS.

**Chairmen Peabody and Revell of the Democratic and Republican Committees Estimate the Result.**

**No Doubt but that a Very Large Vote Will Be Polled on Next Tuesday.**

**Mr. Wenter's Friends Are Confident that He Will Win Easily by a Large Majority.**

**General Political News and Gossip of the Pending Campaign from All the Camps.**

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they belong will fall. In the Twelfth Ward there is another vote-losing contest over the election of Alderman Campbell, the regular Republican Aldermanic candidate. Mr. Swift's espousal of the cause of Mr. Patten, the independent candidate, has made Campbell's friends angry, and they are letting the general ticket fall in their efforts to send their personal candidate back to the Council. In the northwest wards, where the promises made by Mr. Swift to the Poles were expected to bring unexpected strength to the ticket, these promises have failed to have the effect expected. One faction is working for the Republican nominee to win the promised reward. The slighted factions are jealous and are working to undo the work of the favored faction. The fight on the West Town ticket by the Bohemians of the southwestern portion of the city, which the Republicans counted as a vote-getter for their party, has been settled so that nothing will be lost to the city ticket. All the Bohemians are working for Mr. Wenter if they are not doing anything for the town ticket."

"Are the disensions in your party weakening it?"

Mr. Revell—"There are no disensions which will affect the result."

Mr. Peabody—"Besides the trouble over the West Town ticket, which has not harmed the city ticket, there have been practically no quarrels in the party. The fact that there have been but eight cases considered by the committee on contests and appeals is good proof of the harmony in the party ranks. The small number of independent candidates is also an indication that the party is united."

"Does the character of the campaign conducted by your candidate meet with the approval of the party voters?"

Mr. Revell—"I think the non-partisan campaign which is being conducted by Mr. Swift, together with his honorable and gentlemanly canvass and the very cleanliness and honorable bearing, has had the effect of getting not only many thousands of Democratic votes but of independents as well. Matters that I call snail that are usually applied in campaigns have come to both Mr. Swift and me, but we have turned them down, it being the desire of Mr. Swift to be elected clean and whole by making no pledges and using no snail that would be attached to the next Mayor of Chicago."

Mr. Peabody—"Mr. Wenter took the lead in the non-partisan nature of our campaign against any advice as a machine politician. I can now see how wise he was in not following the lines laid down by myself. He will get a majority of the votes of the thinking, independent citizens of Chicago. His campaign has been a manly one, and one devoid of mud-throwing. He has not made any promises and will not have to contend with the jealousies which always come out of such a campaign."

"How is the party of which you stand at the head as a mass going to treat the civil service bill?"

Mr. Revell—"I believe that the great body of the voters will see the necessity for the adoption of the law, and I believe they will follow in the wake of the vigorous campaign which is being mapped out for the bill by the Executive Committee."

Mr. Peabody—"The Executive Committee has already gone on record in the matter. How the great mass of the party will act of course I cannot tell. One thing I am certain of and that is that the managers of the Democratic campaign are making an honest, square fight for the adoption of the law."